THE SILKEN GHOST
ROSADO-GIBSON
Chuck Dixon
Will Rosado
Chuck Gibson
Michael Atiyeh
CGE
WWW.CBENTERTAINMENT.COM
1 of 5
JUNE
$2.95
$4.75 CAN
www.crossgen.com

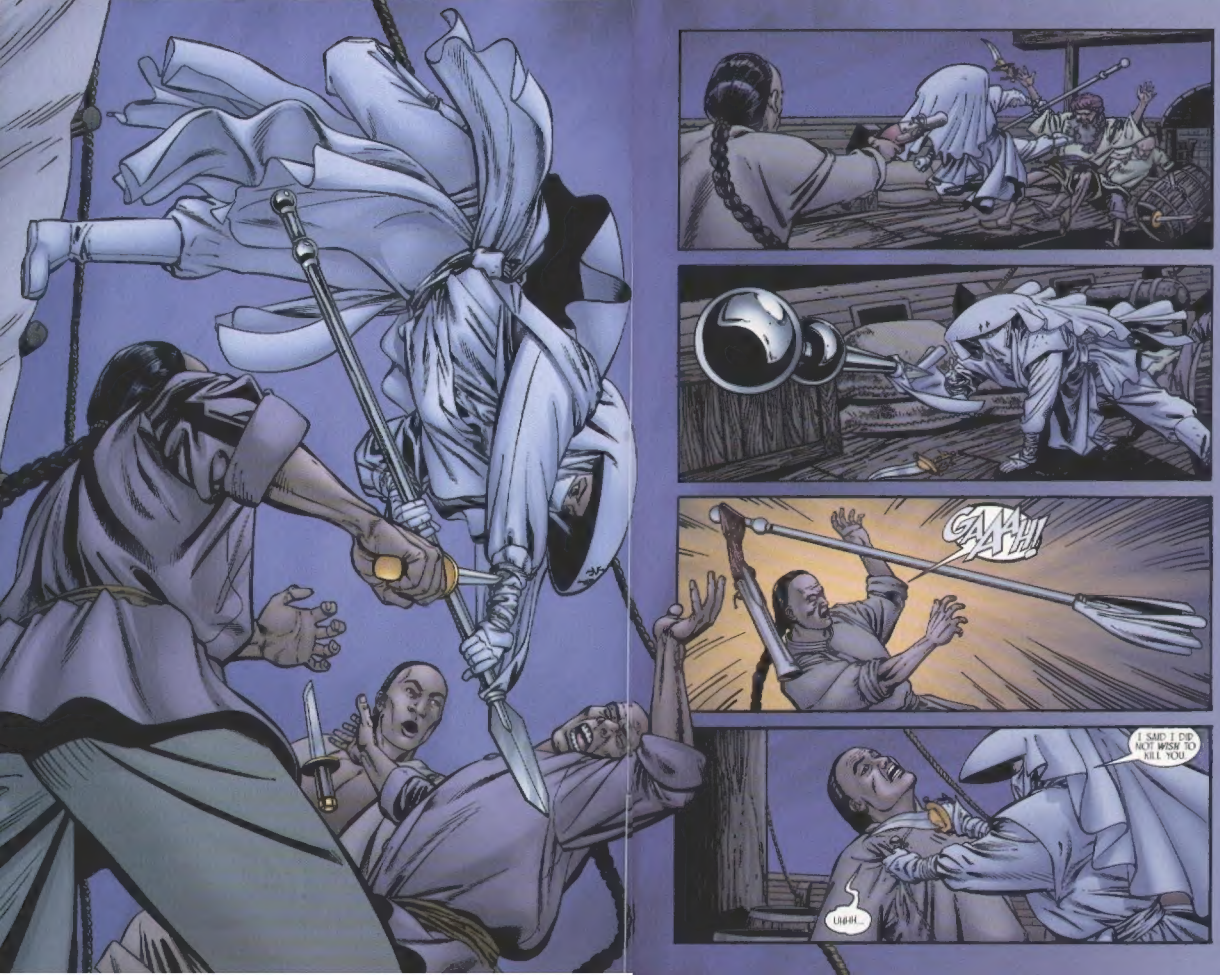
Since the lost eras of Shinacea's distant past, in the shadowy years before that nation had a name, the art of combat has been joined with the world of mysticism. These disciplines of battle and spirituality had schools where fighters were trained and sent out into the world to spread the word of their revered sifus, or masters.

The greatest, and most feared, of these schools was Kiang Shan, the Holy Temple of the Ghosts.

Silken Ghost™ Vol. 1 Issue 1, JUNE 2003. FIRST PRINTING. Published by CrossGen Comics, LLC. Office of publication: 4023 Tampa Road, Suite 2400, Oldsmar, Florida 34677. **CrossGen®**, **CrossGen Comics®**, **CrossGeneration®**, and the **CrossGen sigil®** are registered trademarks of CrossGen Intellectual Property, LLC. The **CGE logo™**, **Silken Ghost™**, **Way of the Rat™** and all characters and images are Trademark and Copyright 2003 CrossGen Intellectual Property, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. The stories, incidents and characters in this publication are fictional. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this book may be reproduced in any form without the express written consent of CrossGen Comics, LLC. PRINTED IN CANADA.

I DO NOT WISH TO KILL YOU.

THAT MAKES IT EASIER FOR US, WOMAN
THOUGH, UNLESS YOU DO AS WE SAY, I CANNOT RETURN THAT PROMISE.
I SEEK ONLY PASSAGE
KLINK!
TROUBLE ME AT YOUR PERIL


GAAAH!!
I SAID I DID NOT WISH TO KILL YOU.
UHHH...

UH?
BAM
THE LADY HAS *PAID* AS FAR AS WOONKAI PORT.
HER GOLD IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR *ME*, LADS. SO LEAVE HER IN *PEACE*.
CAPTAIN DAMON FALCONER, MY LADY.
PERHAPS YOU'D JOIN ME AT THE QUARTERDECK TO *SPARE* MY MEN MORE INJURIES?
AND HAS THE LADY A *NAME*?
NONE I CARE TO *IMPART*, CAPTAIN.

THIS RIVER IS *NO PLACE* FOR A WOMAN ALONE.
I WILL NOT TRAVEL *WITHOUT* COMPANIONS ONCE I REACH WOONKAI.
YOU MEET *MORE* MYSTERIOUS COMRADES SUCH AS YOURSELF?
WE WERE ONCE AS *ONE*.
I HAVE NOT *SEEN* THEM IN SOME TIME.
I WAS *DRAWN* HERE BY A DREAM.
A DREAM *SHARED* WITH THE OTHERS.
A *DREAM*?
AND HOW *MANY* OF YOUR BRETHREN SHARE THIS VISION?
FIVE OF US WERE BANISHED.
THE DREAM CALLS US *HOME*.

"ONE HAS A SPIRIT OF *IRON*.
"AND IRON LEFT TOO *LONG* IN THE FIRE GROWS BRITTLE."
NO.
NO.
SIFU!

"ANOTHER HAS THE SPIRIT OF *WILLOW*.

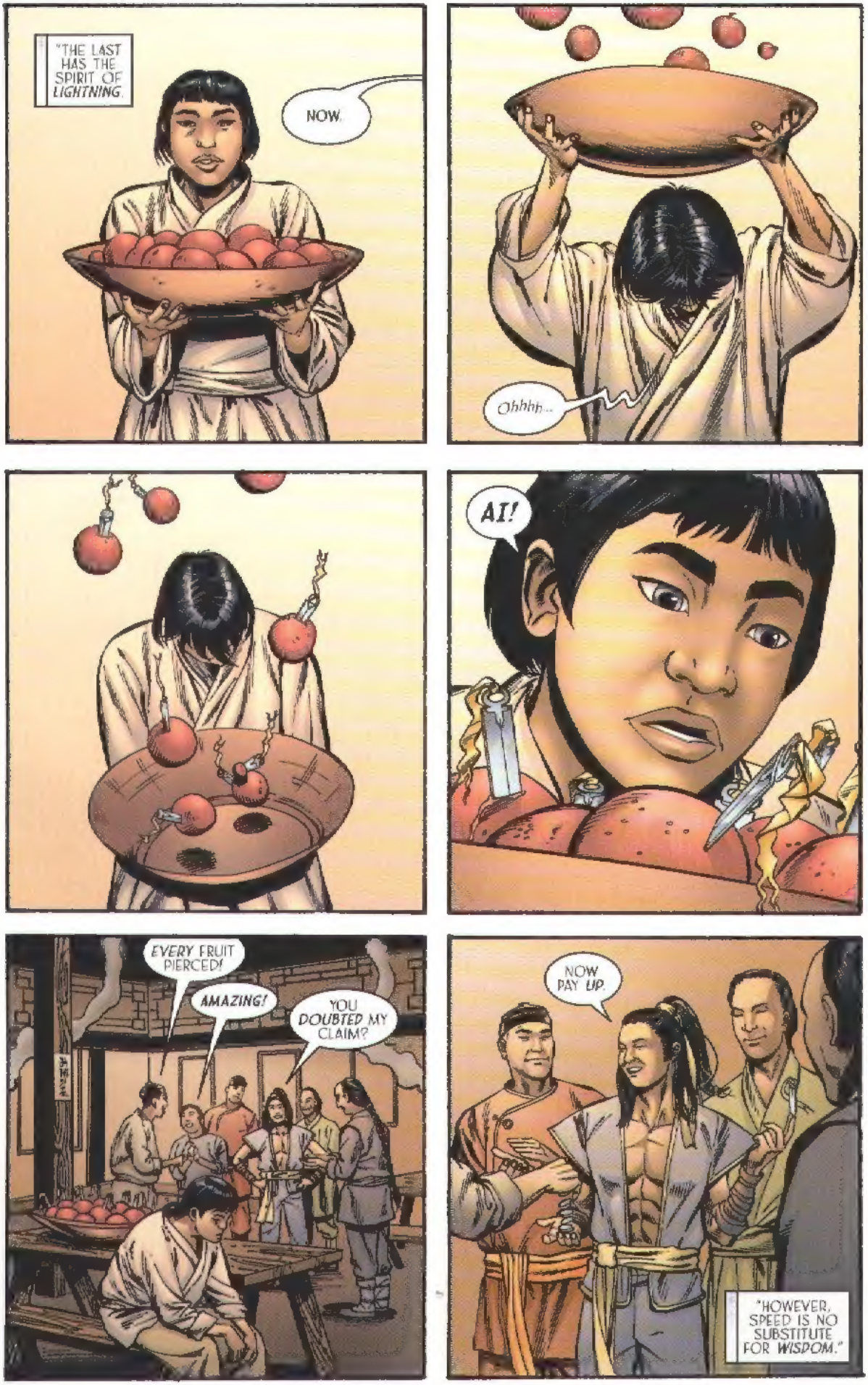
"STRONG YET *YIELDING*."
AND HOW WILL *YOU* PAY FOR THE WAY ACROSS, LOVELY?

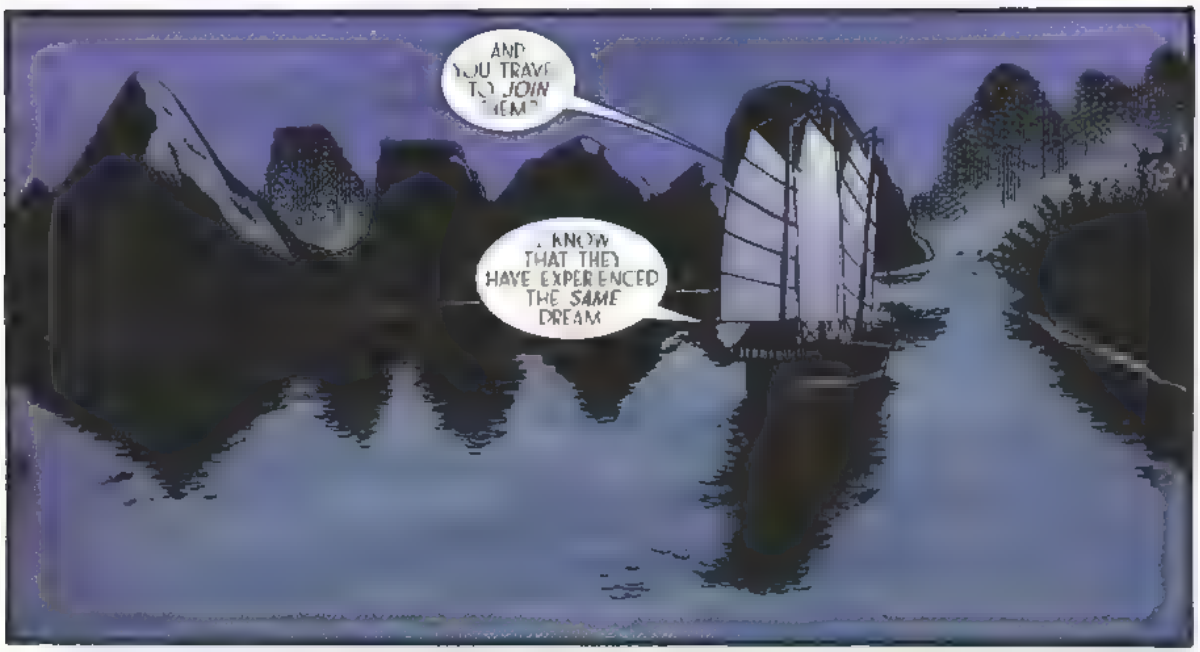
WHAT PAYMENT DO YOU *ASK*, FERRYMAN?
Hm. WE MIGHT WORK AN *EXCHANGE*, eh?

I *HAVE* NO COINS. WHAT MIGHT I *OFFER*?
WELL— THAT IS— uh—

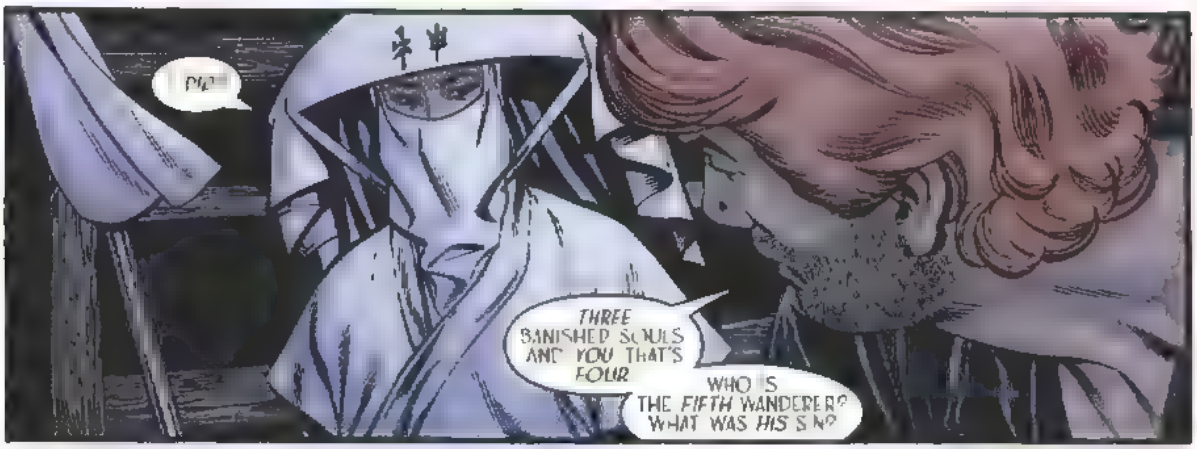
-WHOOP!

"BUT EVEN WILLOW MAY BE BENT *TOO* FAR."


"THE LAST HAS THE SPIRIT OF *LIGHTNING*.
NOW.
Ohhhh...
AI!
EVERY FRUIT PIERCED!
AMAZING!
YOU *DOUBTED* MY CLAIM?
NOW PAY *UP*.
"HOWEVER, SPEED IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR *WISDOM*."


AND YOU TRAVEL TO JOIN THEM?
I KNOW THAT THEY HAVE EXPERIENCED THE *SAME* DREAM

AND WOONKAI LIES AT THE FOOT OF THE MOUNTAIN PASS ONE MUST USE TO TRAVEL TO OUR JOURNEY'S END
I WILL SEE THEM THERE
I THOUGHT YOU SAID THERE WERE *FIVE* OF YOU

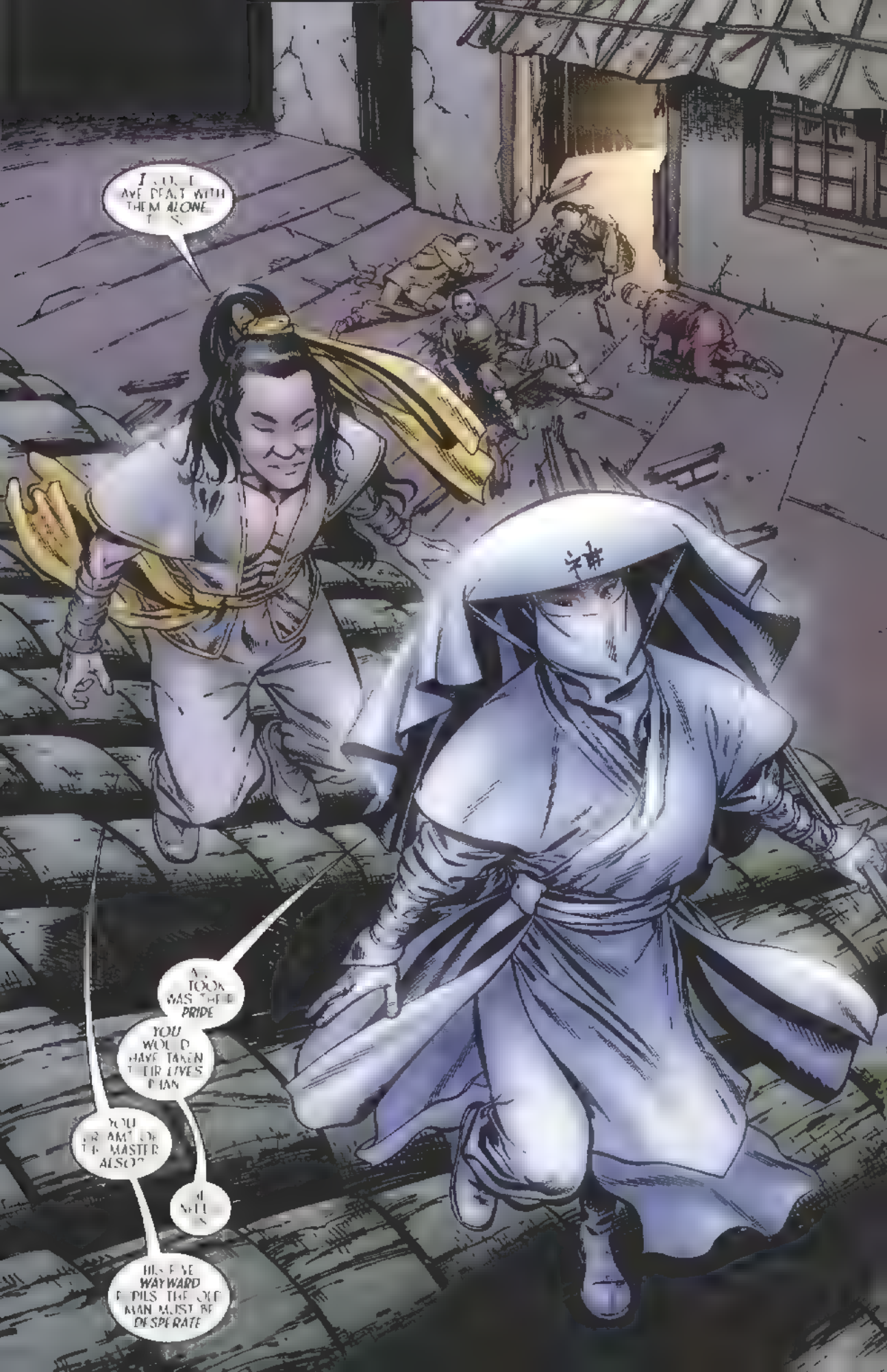

THREE BANISHED SOULS AND *YOU* THAT'S *FOUR*
WHO IS THE *FIFTH* WANDERER? WHAT WAS *HIS* SIN?

A TRAP!

SMOOTH WATERS TO YOU, CAPTAIN
WAIT!
I NEVER ASKED WHO SHE WAS BANISHED
THAT ONE IS FROM THE TEMPLE OF THE GHOST WARRIORS. THE LESS YOU KNOW, THE BETTER
SPANISH?
THE WORST OF ME
NOT FROM WHERE I STAND, BOYO

"SHE LOOKS LIKE JUST THE SORT OF DIFFICULTY A MAN MIGHT RISK EVERYTHING FOR."
UNNH!
CHEAT!
LIAR!
GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK!
HUH?

LEAVE HIM
SHE IS ONE WE ARE MANY
=GISH=
=UH=
=AGH=

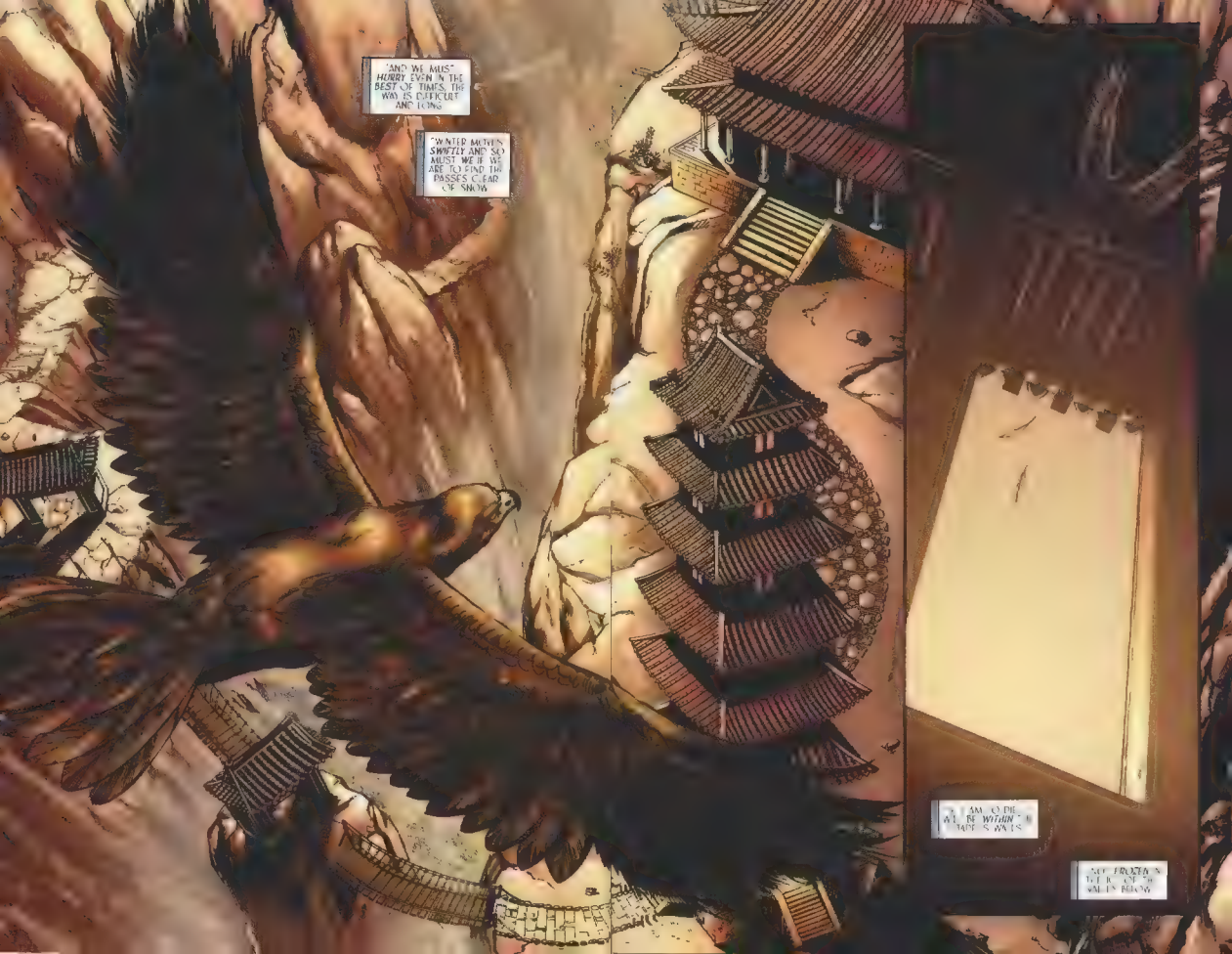

I COULD HAVE DEALT WITH THEM ALONE
THIS
AS TOOK WAS THEIR PRIDE
YOU WOULD HAVE TAKEN THEIR LIVES INSTEAD
YOU ARE AMONG THE MASTER ALSO?
I SHALL
HIS FIVE WAYWARD PUPILS THE OLD MAN MUST BE DESPERATE

PANG KYOON
SHE-YUN
ALWAYS AT ODDS, THOSE TWO

THOK

HAN

AND SU
FOUR ORPHANS RETURNING TO FATHER
YOU SPEAK TOO LIGHTLY OF WHAT S TO COME SHI-YUN
THE MASTER CALLS US HOME THROUGH THE WORLD OF DREAMS. THEN MATTERS ARE MOST P
WHAT MAY HAVE HAPPENED THAT HIS RIVAL PUPPETS COU NOT HAVE HAND
DESTINY S US TO
LUCK CAT
WHATEVER NAME ONE CALLS T, WE CANNOT DENY OUR DREAMS
ONLY BECAUSE LACK OF SLEEP STEALS BEAUTY
WE SHAN


"AND WE MUST HURRY, EVEN IN THE BEST OF TIMES. THE WAY IS DIFFICULT AND LONG."
"WINTER MOVES SWIFTLY AND SO MUST WE IF WE ARE TO FIND THE PASSES CLEAR OF SNOW."
"I AM TO DIE AT BE WITHIN THE NEXT 5 DAYS."
"MY FROZEN TEARS OF WILL FLOW."

HAHAHAHAHAHAH

CrossGen Entertainment, Inc.
CrossGen Intellectual Property, LLC
President, Intellectual Property Officer & Publisher **Mark Alessi**
Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer **Joe Pantillo**
Director of Operations & Facilities **John Smith**
Director of Marketing & Communications **Bill Rosemann**
Vice President Special Projects **Brandon Peterson**
Vice President Sales **Chris Cory**
Director of Sales Book Trade **Robert Boyd**
Director of Sales Direct & Foreign Markets **James Breitbell**
Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer **Michael A. Hoatlin**
Controller **Brian Saldo**
Director of Human Resources **Karla Barnett**
Digital Manager **Shirley Burdett**
Senior Vice President, General Counsel **Jennifer Hernandez**
Paralegal **Tammy Jackson**
CrossGen Education, LLC
Vice President **Beth Widera**
CrossGen Media, LLC, CrossGen Productions, LLC
Senior Vice President Product Development **Tony Penzetta**

MegaCon, LLC
Director **Beth Widera**
CrossGen Technologies, LLC; CrossGen Interactive, LLC; Comics on the Web, LLC
Senior Vice President, Chief Technology Officer **Jim Skalisatter**
Director of Information Technology **Courtland Whited**
Internet Service Administrator **Chad Wendzel**
CrossGen Publishing, LLC; CrossGen Comics, LLC, Code 6 Comics, LLC
Senior Vice President, Chief Creative Officer **Gina M. Villa**
Executive Vice President, Publishing **Ian W. Peter**
Executive Production Director **Charles Decker**
Vice President, Web Development **Barbara Kesel**
Vice President, Art Director **Bart Sears**
Assistant Art Directors **Michael Atiyeh, Butch Guice, Dave Lanphear, Rick Magyar, Laura Martin, Mark Pennington, Andy Smith**
Freelance Coordinator **Michelle Pugliese**
Vice President, Production **Pam Davies**
Production Supervisor, Advertising Work **Sylvia Biotz**
Production Supervisor, Books **Janet Bechtle**
Production Designers **Erin Flanagan & Randy Martin**
Production Assistants **Marisol Quintana & Ron Dominguez**

"Grand adventure at the top of the world!"
— Comics Information
Crossgen
2 OF 5
JULY
THE SILKEN GHOST
USA $2.95 CAN $4.50
crossgen.com
Chuck Dixon
Will Rosado
Chuck Gibson
Michael Atiyeh

Since the lost eras of Shinacea's distant past, in the shadowy years before that nation had a name, the art of combat has been joined with the world of mysticism. These disciplines of battle and spirituality had schools where fighters were trained and sent out into the world to spread the word of their revered sifus, or masters.

The greatest, and most feared, of these schools was Kiang Shan, the Holy Temple of the Ghosts.

Now Tei Su, the Silken Ghost, leads three disgraced former students of the Holy Temple back to the mountain fortress to restore their honor and repay an ancient debt.

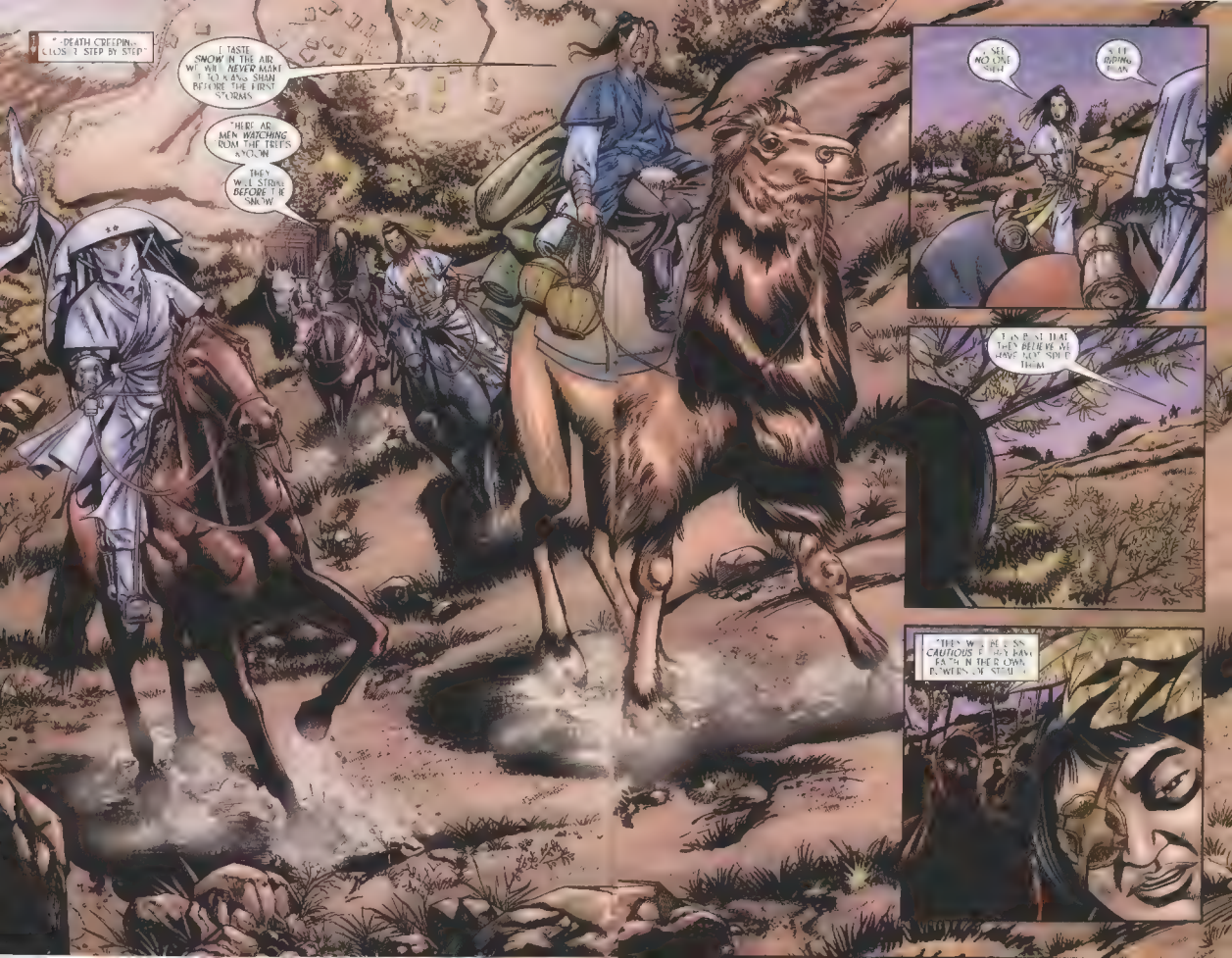
Silken Ghost™ & © [illegible] JULY 2013 FIRST PRINTING. Published by CrossGen Comics LLC. Office of publication: [illegible] Temple Road, Suite 2400, Oldsmar, Florida 34677. CrossGen®, CrossGen Comics®, CrossGeneration®, and the CrossGen slogans are registered trademarks of CrossGen Intellectual Property LLC. Silken Ghost™, Way of the Rat™ and all characters and images are trademarks and copyright © CrossGen Intellectual Property LLC. All RIGHTS RESERVED. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this publication are entirely fictional. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form without the express written consent of CrossGen Comics LLC. PRINTED IN CANADA

YOU TRY
MY PATIENCE
OLD MAN!

YOU REACHED OUT TO YOUR PUPILS AND BANISHED FROM THIS TEMPLE
THOUGH HOLD YOUR BODY YOUR SPIRIT STILL SCARS FREE
THEY NAMED YOU ONCE WHAT MAKES YOU BELIEVE THEY WILL NOT DO SO AGAIN?
I KILLED YOUR BEST ACOLYTES
THEIR FORM WAS WEAK THEIR SPIRITS WERE SMALL
THESE TO BE YOU SUMMON AS THE WORST OF YOUR STUDENTS
YOU AS THEM HERE CAN TO DIE

HUNGA!
YES
FOUR RIDE TOWARD KIANG SHAN FROM THE RIVER. YOU WILL RIDE TO MEET THEM
ONLY FOUR?
WE SHALL KILL THEM EASILY
ONLY IF YOU ARE VERY, VERY FAST
NOW RIDE
MUST WE CONTINUE THIS GAME, OLD ONE?
YOUR STUBBORNESS WILL ONLY COST MORE

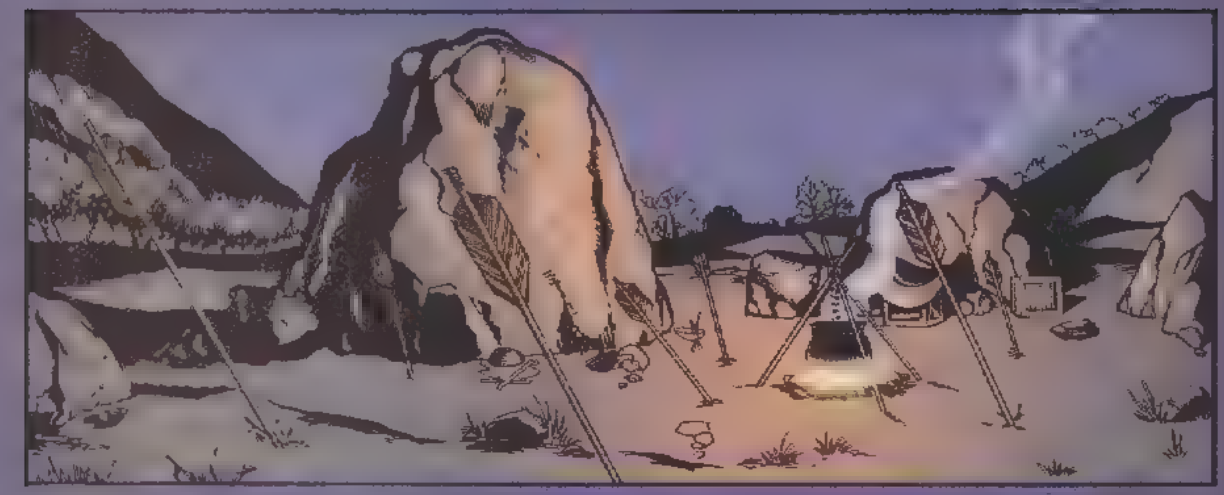
HAVE I NOT PROVEN MYSELF WORTHY MY SIFU?
HAVE I NOT BESTED YO
AM I NOT THE MOST DESERVING OF YOUR GIFTS?
ANSWER ME, SIFU!
ANSWER ME NOW!
THEN SWING OLD MAN
HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA!
IKE A PENDULUM MARKING OFF THE AST MOMENTS OF YOUR IFE

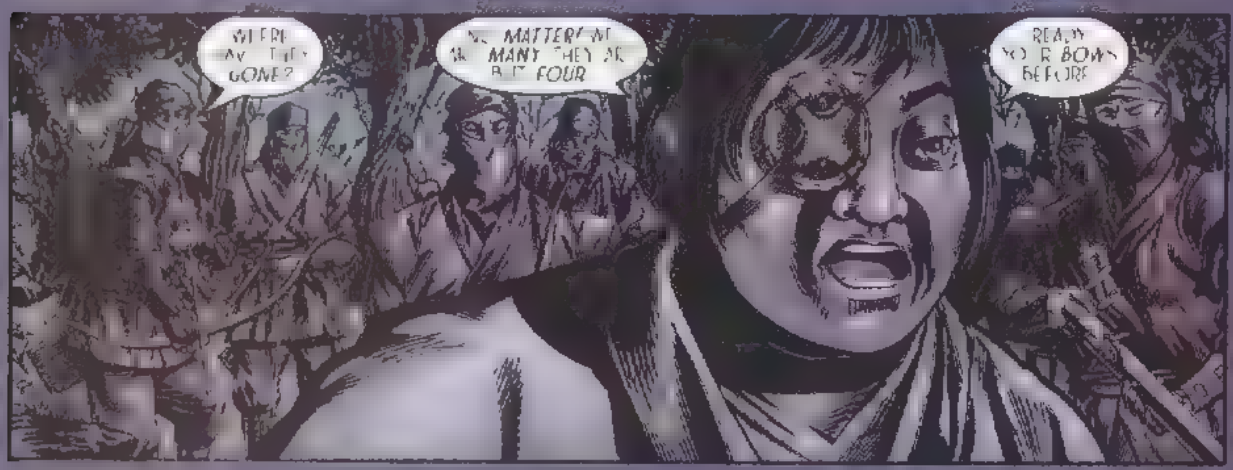

"...DEATH CREEPING CLOSER STEP BY STEP."
I TASTE SNOW IN THE AIR. WE WILL NEVER MAKE IT TO KANG SHAN BEFORE THE FIRST STORMS.
THERE ARE MEN WATCHING FROM THE TREES, KYOUN.
THEY WILL STRIKE BEFORE THE SNOW.
I SEE NO ONE, SHEN.
SEE RIDING THEM.
I AM SURE THAT THEY BELIEVE WE HAVE LOST SIGHT OF THEM.
"THEY WILL BE LESS CAUTIOUS IF THEY HAVE FAITH IN THEIR OWN POWERS OF STEALTH."

YOU MIGHT TRAVEL FASTER WITHOUT BAGGAGE
I WILL NOT LEAVE MY FINE THINGS BEHIND TO SLOW
VANITY WILL EVER BE YOUR UNDOING, SHIH YUN
AND MODESTY WILL BE YOURS
IN A WORLD OF MEN, BEAUTY IS A WEAPON
BUT I CANNOT EXPECT YOU TO UNDERSTAND THAT
IT IS BALANCE
IT IS STRENGTH

BUT MOSTLY IT'S A JOINING
CHEN HO HAS JOINED WITH THE GREAT SPIRITS OF THE PAST
THE SKILLS OF THE ANCESTORS ARE HIS
HE IS A VESSEL FOR THEIR SKILLS
ONE DAY WITH AN OPEN MIND AND INTENSE STUDY YOU MAY BE AS CHEN
UNTIL THEN STUDY HIS EVERY MOVEMENT

BETTER EAT BEFORE PHAN TAKES IT ALL
THANK YOU, MYCRON
TREAD SOFTLY, SHEN YUN
HAVE I DRAWN BLOOD TO SEE
YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO
SHEN




WHERE ARE THEY GONE?
NO MATTER AT ALL MANY THEY ARE BUT FOUR
READY YOUR BOWS BEFORE

AI!

THEY ARE BEHIND US!
I HEAR SOMETHING!
QUIET YOU

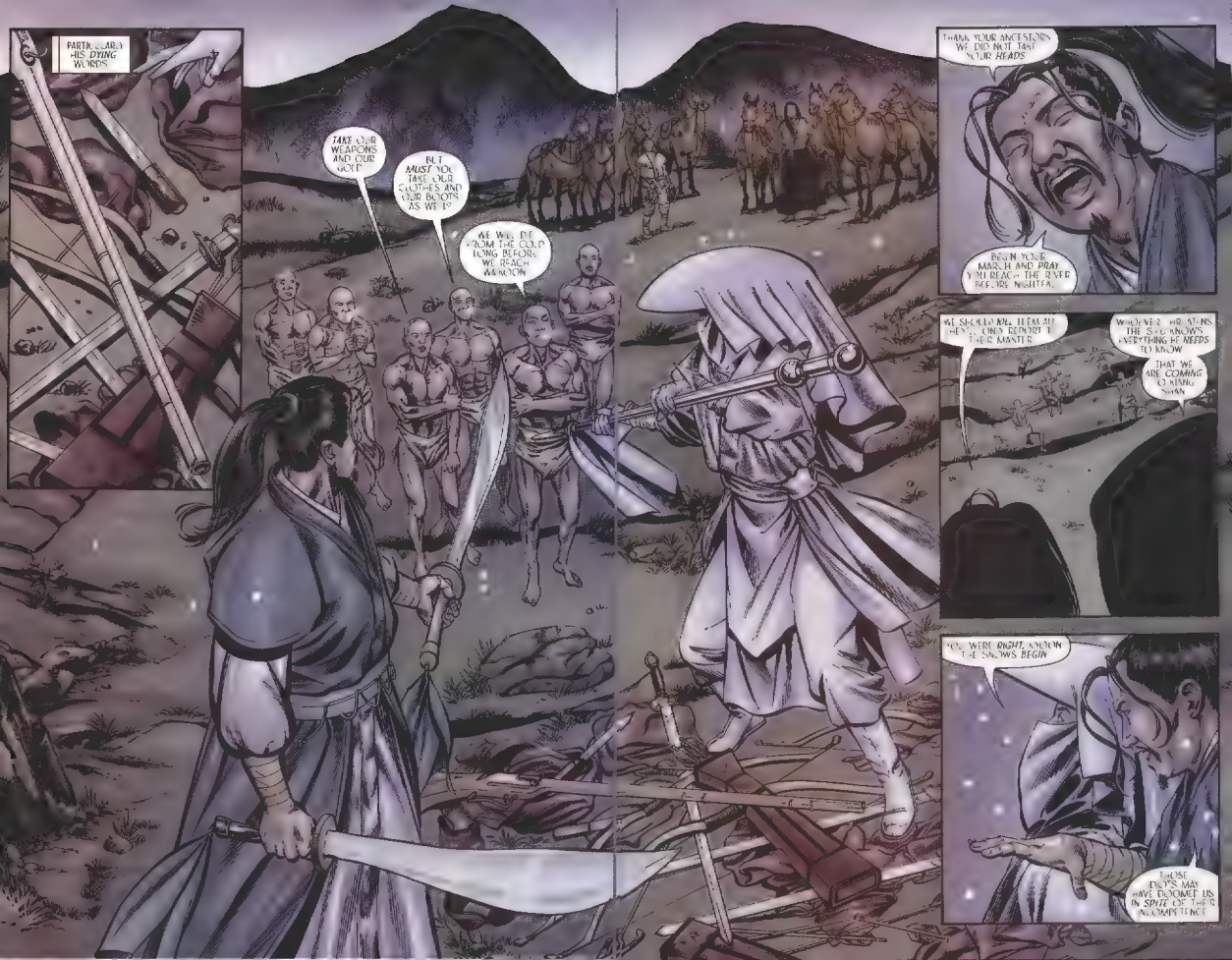
WE MUST BE READY FOR AN ATTACK FROM ANYWHERE

THE SWORDSMAN! HE IS THE LEADER!
KILL HIM!
DO NOT DARE MISS!

UNNNH!
PANG KYOON!
HA! EVEN THEY CANNOT OUTRUN A MUSKET BALL!
RELOAD THE WEAPON DO YOU NOT HEAR ME?
!

GODS OF MY FATHERS
AH!
AHH!
GAAAHH!
COME NO CLOSER!
I WILL GUT YOU!
OF WHAT USE IS YOUR BLADE
AGAINST A GHOST?

AGHH!
IS KING KYCOON DEAD?
HE WAS SHOT THROUGH THE HEART BUT THERE IS NO
I WAS A FEW MEASURE
YOUR PAIN HURT TRAPPED
BUT NOT THE PAIN
THEY WERE NOT BANDITS THEY WERE PAID GOLD TO TRACK AND
PAID BY WHOM
THE LEADER DID NOT KNOW
HE GAINED NOTHING BY HIDING THE TRUTH
I'VE LEARNED TO TRUST A MAN'S WORD


PARTIALLY HIS DYING WORDS
TAKE OUR WEAPONS AND OUR GOD?
BUT MUST YOU TAKE OUR CLOTHES AND OUR BOOTS AS WELL?
WE WILL DIE FROM THE COLD LONG BEFORE WE REACH WINDOW
THANK YOUR ANCESTORS WE DID NOT TAKE YOUR HEADS
BEGIN YOUR MARCH AND PRAY YOU REACH THE RIVER BEFORE NIGHTFALL
WE SHOULD KILL THEM ALL HERE. ONLY REPORT THEIR MASTER
WHOEVER HE IS, THE SEA KNOWS EVERYTHING HE NEEDS TO KNOW
THAT WE ARE COMING TO AMMO SHAN
YOU WERE RIGHT, KNOWN THE SNOWS BEGIN
THOSE DEEDS MAY HAVE DOOMED US IN SPITE OF THEIR INCOMPETENCE

THE STORMS IN THE MOUNTAIN PASS WILL KILL AS SURELY AS ANY BLADE
NO!
LEAVE ME BE!

NOOOOOOOO!

Storytellers

Writer
Chuck Dixon

Penciler
Will Rosado

Colorist
Michael Atiyeh

Letterer
Dave Lanphear

Inker
Chuck Gibson

The CrossGen Universe created by Mark Alessi & Gina M. Villa

President/Chief Executive Officer/Publisher - Mark Alessi
Senior Vice President/Chief Creative Officer - Gina M. Villa
Vice President/Writing Development - Barbara Kesel
Director/Ancillary Publishing - Ian M. Feller
Senior Vice President/Chief Financial Officer - Michael A. Beattie
Senior Vice President/General Counsel - Jennifer Hernandez
Senior Vice President/Product Development - Tony Panaccio
Director of Marketing & Communications - Bill Rosemann
Vice President/Sales - Chris Oarr
Director of Sales/Direct & Foreign Markets - James Breitbeil
Vice President/Special Projects - Brandon Peterson
Vice President/Art Director - Bart Sears
Assistant Art Directors - Michael Atiyeh, Butch Guice, Dave Lanphear, Rick Magyar, Laura Martin, Mark Pennington, Andy Smith
Freelance Coordinator - Michelle Pugliese
Vice President/Production - Pam Davies
Production Supervisor/Advertising/Web - Sylvia Bretz
Production Supervisor/Books - Janet Bechtle
Production Designers - Erin Flanagan & Randy Martin
Production Assistants - Marisol Quintana & Ron Domingue

CrossGen
3 OF 5
AUG
THE SILKEN GHOST
Chuck Dixon
Will Rosado
Chuck Gibson
Michael Atiyeh
USA $2.95 CAN $4.00
crossgen.com

Since the lost eras of Shinacea's distant past, in the shadowy years before that nation had a name, the art of combat has been joined with the world of mysticism. These disciplines of battle and spirituality had schools where fighters were trained and sent out into the world to spread the word of their revered sifus, or masters.

The greatest, and most feared, of these schools was Kiang Shan, the Holy Temple of the Ghosts.

Now Tei Su, the Silken Ghost, leads three disgraced former students of the Holy Temple back to the mountain fortress to restore their honor and repay an ancient debt.

The four have survived one cowardly attack upon them that has delayed their journey in a dangerous way. The winter snows and treacherous passes on the road to Kiang Shan may now doom them.

Silken Ghost™ Vol. 1, Issue 1. AUGUST 200_. FIRST PRINTING. Published by CrossGen Comics, LLC. 200_ all publication rights. 4 West Gude Drive, Suite 240, Rockville, MD 20850. (301) 948-7711. CrossGen®, CrossGen.com®, CrossGeneration®, and the CrossGen eagle are registered trademarks of CrossGen Intellectual Property, LLC. Silken Ghost™, Way of the Rat™, and all prominent characters and images are trademarks of CrossGen Intellectual Property, LLC. All rights reserved. The characters, events, stories, and incidents featured in this publication are entirely fictional. Any similarity to persons living or dead is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this book may be reproduced in any form without the express written consent of CrossGen Comics, LLC. PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

THE SNOW WILL SOON REACH THE HORSES' *BELLIES!*
THEN WE SHALL HAVE *MEAT* FOR DINNER

THAT IS WHY I PREFER A CAMEL.
HIGHER BELLY
THE PASS IS CLOSING SOON WE WILL BE WALKING
AND WE WILL FIND OUT WHAT CAMEL TASTES LIKE
UP! GET UP!
THE MID MOOSE SAYS T S NOT MUCH FURTHER!

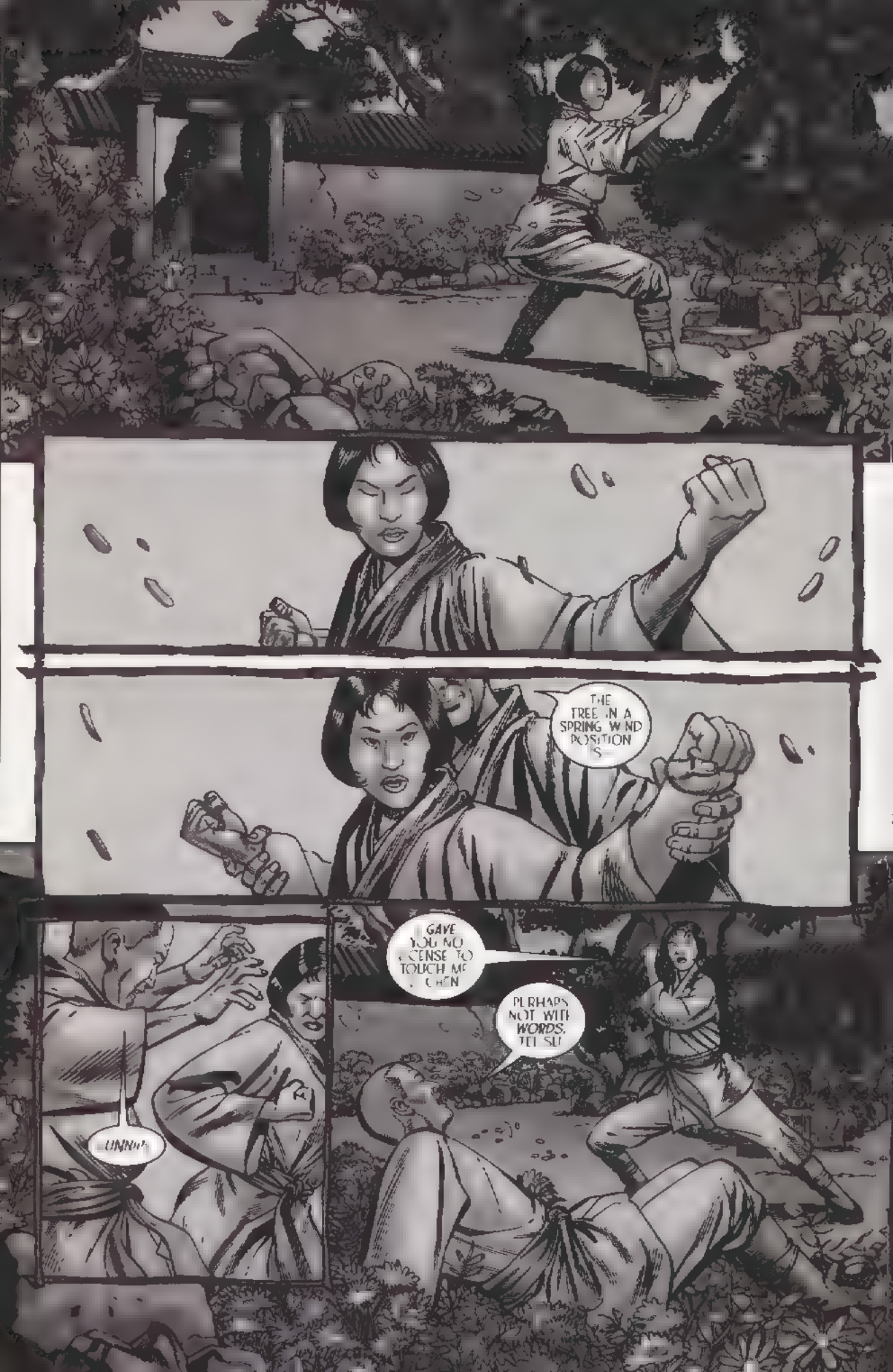
YOUR PACK MULE *DIED* BENEATH THIS WEIGHT!
NOW YOUR *HORSE* IS OVERBURDENED!
I CARRY ONLY WHAT I NEED!
THESE ITEMS ARE *LUXURIES*, SHIH YUN.
TO *YOU!* TO A TIMID *MOUSE!*
YOU KNOW *NOTHING* OF PERFUMES OR FINE THINGS!
JAH
HA!
WASTE NO TEARS UPON *YOURSELF*
CRY INSTEAD FOR THE GOOD MOUNT YOU *LAMED*

THIS JOURNEY IS MADNESS, TE SUI WE STARTED TOO LATE! BETTER TO WA T UNTI SPRING
IMPOSSIBLE, PHAN. YOU RECEIVED THE V SIONS JUST AS I DID JUST AS THE OTHERS DID
THE MASTER NEEDS US AT K ANG SHAN IMMEDIATELY
WHAT TERRIBLE THREAT BROUGHT HIM TO THIS PLACE?
THAT HE IS FORCED TO CAL. UPON THOSE WHO FAILED HIM IN THE PAST
DO I SEE WHAT I BELIEVE I SEE? OR IS THIS SOME PHANTOM OF SWIRLING SNOW?
T IS OUR RESPITE

THE VILLAGE THAT MARKS THE MIDWAY OF OUR JOURNEY
SO OUR TRAVELS ARE HALF COMPLETED
ONLY IN THE SENSE OF GROUND COVERED. THE DANGER INCREASES WITH EACH STEP TAKEN FROM HERE
DEVILS TAKE TOMORROW
"WE HAVE A WARM PLACE TO SLEEP TONIGHT!"
WE EXPECTED NO GUESTS SO LATE IN THE SEASON
YOU ARE WELCOME TO WHAT WE HAVE

AH YOU ARE OF THE GHOST TEMPLE?
WE WILL NOT BE STAYING, KIND HEADMAN WE TRAVEL ON TO XIANG SHAN
BUT BE WARNED THAT WE LIVE LEAN WHEN THE SNOWS COME FOR WHO IS TO KNOW WHEN THE ICE MAY THAW?
THE WAY TO THE TEMPLE IS TREACHEROUS WE WISH TO HIRE A GUIDE
WE WERE STUDENTS OF THE GREAT TEACHER THERE
KAI TAO COME MEET OUR GUESTS
THERE IS ONLY ONE AMONG US WHO CAN FIND THE WAY
THE SNOW FIELDS TO THE NORTH ARE DANGEROUS

I SHALL TAKE YOU TO KIANG SHAN
WUYN
THOUGH WITHOUT SIGHT SHE CAN *SENSE* THE WILL OF THE MOUNTAIN *TOUCHED* BY THE SPIRIT OF THE EARTH SHE S
SHE WILL LEAD YOU ON A PATH THAT IS *SURE* AND SOLID
I AM *TEI SU*
I AM *HONORED*
THEN IT IS SO!
WE *FEAST* ON LAMB AND MILK!


THE TREE IN A SPRING WIND POSITION IS
I GAVE YOU NO SENSE TO TOUCH ME CHEN
PERHAPS NOT WITH WORDS. TELL SU
UNNH!

UH?
A NIGHTMARE TIMIR MOUSE
NO, A DREAM A FANTASY
YOUR MUTED CRIES WERE NOT OF TERROR BUT OF
YOU CHATTER LIKE A BIR
I SPEAK TRUTH AN YOU
MUS RESS TE SUP
KAL?
THE MOUNTAIN SPEAKS
WE MUST GO AND GO NOW

WHY MUST WE BEGIN OUR JOURNEY AT NIGHT?
BECAUSE THE MOUNTAIN HAS SPOKEN
I DID NOT HEAR IT
QUIET
WHY? BECAUSE THE MOUNTAIN MIGHT HEAR US
NO' EVEN A MULE TO CARRY MY GOODS
AND WE FOLLOW A BLIND TODDLER

I AM CURSED
FOOLS WHO FOLLOW A CHILD
ALL TO SAVE AN ANCIENT MASTER WHO IS PROBABLY
NO!

SHIH!
"NNH"
I'LL STILL BE SO I WILL PULL YOU AND THE OTHERS BACK
SKAAH
CAUTIONED YOU STAY ON THE PATH
THE SNOW IS AS DEEP AS
MOUNTAINS HIGH

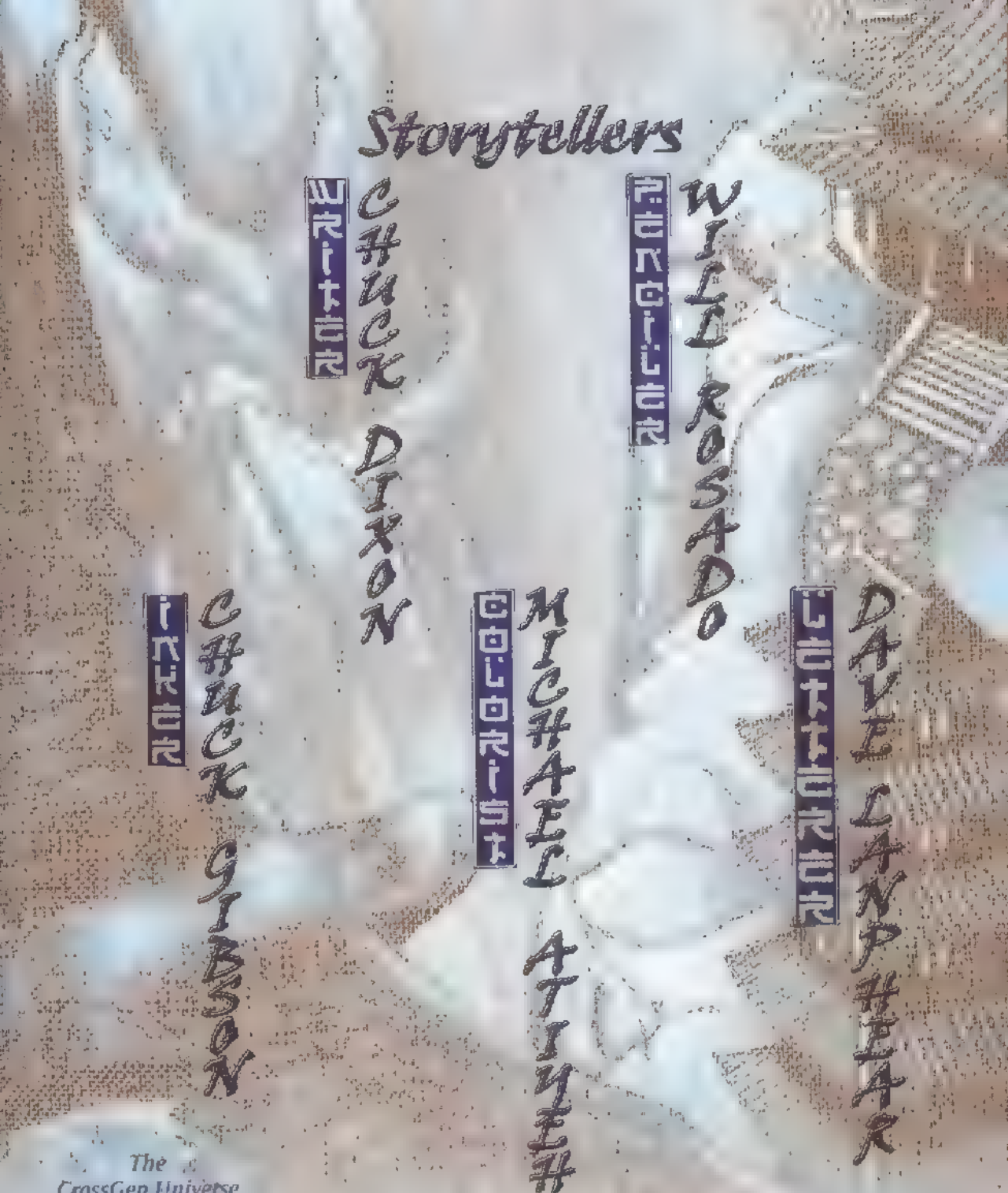
WALK AS I WALK FOLLOW MY STEPS ONLY
THE WAY S NARROW WITH MANY TURNS
WE MUST BE OFF THIS SLOPE BEFORE THE WARMTH OF THE RISING SUN SHIFTS THE ICE
"THEN WE REACH THE ONLY PASS THAT THE SNOWS HAVE NOT CLOSED
"THE WAY S EASIER FROM THERE"

I DO NOT REMEMBER THE WAY TO KANG SHAN BEING THIS HARD
WE NEVER TRAVELLED FROM THERE IN THE DEAD OF WINTER'S COLD, PHAN
I CANNOT FEEL MY FEET
HOLD
ROCK UPON ROCK
THIS IS NOT A SOUND THE MOUNTAIN MAKES UNAIDED
THERE ARE STRANGERS HERE

BEHIND ME! STONE IN MY TRACKS AND DO NOT STRAY!
I CALL UPON MY SPIRIT MENTOR
I, ONE WHO HAS CHOSEN ME AS HIS GUIDE
NO SHELTER BUT THE ONE I OFFER!
STAND IN MY WAKE OR DIE!

HEAR NOT LITTLE ONE
THERE IS ANOTHER HERE AN ANCIENT PRESENCE
TO ME, AUGUST SPIRIT
SHARE YOUR STRENGTH AND WISDOM WITH ME ONCE MORE
GUIDE MY BLADE
SHOW ME YOUR POWER
MAKE MY ENEMIES YOURS
AND SHOW ME WHERE LIES THEIR WEAKNESS

SAVED US
NOW ALL IS CLEAR YOUR POWER COMES FROM THE ANCESTORS
THE POWER OF GHOSTS
EACH OF US HAS AN ASPECT OF POWER
PHAN'S IS SPEED SHIH YUN'S IS CHARM MINE IS GRACE AND PYANG KOON'S
IS THAT OF IRON
STRONG AND UNBENDING THE POWER TO RIVEN MOUNTAINS BUT NOT THE POWER TO YIELD



The CrossGen Universe created by Mark Alessi & Gina M. Villa

President Chief Executive Officer & Publisher - **Mark Alessi**
Senior Vice President Chief Creative Officer - **Gina M. Villa**
Vice President Writing Development - **Barbara Kesel**
Director Ancillary Publishing - **Ian M. Feller**
Senior Vice President Chief Financial Officer - **Michael A. Beattie**
Controller - **Brian Soltis**
Senior Vice President General Counsel - **Jennifer Hernandez**
Senior Vice President Product Development - **Tony Panaccio**
Director of Marketing & Communications - **Bill Rosemann**
Vice President Sales - **Chris Oarr**
Director of Sales Direct & Foreign Markets - **James Breitbeil**

Vice President Special Projects - **Brandon Peterson**
Vice President Art Director - **Burt Sears**
Assistant Art Directors - **Michael Atiyeh, Butch Guice, Dave Lanphear, Rick Magyar, Laura Martin, Mark Pennington, Andy Smith**
Freelance Coordinator - **Michelle Pugliese**
Vice President Production - **Pam Davies**
Production Supervisor Advertising/Web - **Sylvia Bretz**
Production Supervisor Books - **Janet Bechtle**
Production Designers - **Erin Flanagan & Randy Martin**
Production Assistants - **Marisol Quintana & Ron Domingue**

CrossGen
4 OF 3
SEPT
THE SILKEN GHOST
ROSADO
USA $2 95 CAN $4 00
Chuck Dixon
Will Rosado
Chuck Gibson
Michael Atiyeh

Since the lost eras of Shinacea's distant past, in the shadowy years before that nation had a name, the art of combat has been joined with the world of mysticism. These disciplines of battle and spirituality had schools where fighters were trained and sent out into the world to spread the word of their revered sifus, or masters.

The greatest, and most feared, of these schools was Kiang Shan, the Holy Temple of the Ghosts.

Weakened and hungry from their arduous journey, the four ghosts face their final challenges as they near the temple fortress of Kiang Shan.

Silken Ghost

Tei Su

Lightning Ghost

Phasm

Iron Ghost

Pang Kyuon

Willow Ghost

Shih Yun

The Fifth Ghost?

Silken Ghost™ Vol. 1 Issue 4 ... FIRST PRINTING. Published by CrossGen Comics, LLC. Office of publication: 4... Tampa Road, Suite ...00, Clearwater, Florida ...6... CrossGen®, CrossGen Comics®, CrossGeneration®, and the CrossGen sigil® are registered trademarks of CrossGen Holdings, Ltd. Silken Ghost™, Way of the Rat™ and all ... characters, ... and images are the ... and property of CrossGen Holdings, Ltd. ... Any similarities to persons ... dead or ... are purely coincidental. ... No portion of this publication may be reproduced by any means without the express written consent of CrossGen Comics, except for ... purposes. None of the ... may be reproduced by any means without the express written consent of CrossGen Comics. ... U.S.A. & TERRITORIES. PRINTED IN CANADA.

REVERED SIFL
DO YOU FIND THIS *AMUSING?*
IT'S A *CHANGE*, IS IT NOT?

YOU CRAVEN SADISTS HERE!
I SHALL BRING YOU THE SAME I SHALL VISIT UPON YOU A MENU OF PAIN MORE VAST THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE!
I SHALL NOT GIVE YOU WHAT YOU WISH LAUGHING GHOST
PAIN IS NOTHING TO ME YOU CANNOT REACH ME THROUGH THE SENSES ALONE
OH... I WILL REACH YOU, MASTER
AND YOU WILL BEG TO GRANT ME FAVOR
BUT HOW LONG CAN YOU WAIT WICKED PRIEST?

EVEN NOW, WITH EVERY STEP FATE MARCHES CLOSER
THEY'LL BE ALONG THIS PASS SOON
LIKE FISH IN A NET
I SEE NOTHING
HOW ARE WE TO HUNT THEM WHEN THE SNOW BLINDS US?
IT BLINDS THEM AS WELL
THAT'S LITTLE COMFORT AS

UH?
Oh

I COULD HAVE HANDLED THEM, SILKEN GHOST
THEY ARE ONLY MEN
YOU TAKE PLEASURE IN THE KILLING, WILLOW GHOST
YOU TAKE PLEASURE IN NOTHING

IS IT SAFE TO COME OUT NOW?
IT IS SAFE FOR NOW KAI TAO
"THOUGH MOR DANGER AWAITS ON THE PATH TO THE GHOST TEMPLE"
MASTER
ILUNGA AND THE OTHERS
THEY SHOULD HAVE RETURNED BY NOW ILUNGA WOULD NEVER LINGER IN THE PASSES DURING A STORM
MAKE YOURSELF PLAIN TSARIMAN
ILUNGA IS MY BROTHER

THEN GO TO HIM FOR SUCCOR OR REVENGE
EITHER WAY, I WANT THE HEADS OF THE FOUR WHO COME TO OPPOSE ME
IT IS DONE MASTER
I ASK ONLY TO SERVE AS YOUR VESSEL
IN RETURN I WILL BRING THE WORLD TO HELL IN YOUR NAME
BUT THAT OLD FOOL DENIES ME YOUR PRESENCE
I AM FOREVER THWARTED BY THAT ANCIENT FRAUD
WHY DOES HE PERSIST IN DENYING ME?

YOU ARE TROUBLED, SILKEN GHOST
YOU SEE WHAT CANNOT BE SEEN
IT IS MY GIFT IT IS WHY I ACCOMPANY YOU
IT IS THE BLOOD WE SPILL IT MATTERS NOT THAT IT IS THE BLOOD OF EVIL MEN
DOES THAT NOT MAKE US EVIL IN TURN?
THERE IS A COST FOR BEING A WARRIOR IN THE NAME OF VIRTUE
YOU PAY THIS COST SO OTHERS DO NOT
WHAT IF THE COST IS TOO GREAT?
YOU ARE TOO DELICATE TO BE A WARRIOR

LIKE THE LEAVES THAT DIE IN THE CHILL OF WINTER
YOUR SOUL WILL WITHER IN THE SHADOW OF DEATH
RATHER YOU WERE PROTECTED
RATHER YOU WERE LOVED
YOU SHOULD NOT SPEAK SO BOLDLY CHEN
DO NOT PRETEND THAT YOU HAVE NOT SENSED THE BOND BETWEEN US
OUR SPIRITS KNOW THAT WE ARE AS ONE
AS DO OUR BODIES
CHEN
Shhh
SAY NOTHING, TH... S...

A SWORD IS DRAWN
WE ARE CHALLENGED
I SEE NOTHING
A WARRIOR
HE'S THERE

I AM TSAPHAN, BROTHER TO HUNGA
HE WAS SENT FORTH TO SLAY YOU
I WAS SENT IN HIS STEPS
HE IS DEAD ALONG WITH HIS COMRADES IN THE PASS BEHIND US

RUN GHOST YOU ARE STILL WEAK
AT MY BACK
THIS IS MY FIGHT

WITH ALL RESPECT
I SEE THE PATH AHEAD I SEE MY PLACE UPON IT

I SERVE THE SIPL IN MY OWN WAY
YOU WILL SERVE HIM BY REACHING HIS SIDE

No!

PYANG KOON
HE IS GONE, TEI SU!
YOU MUST NOT JOIN HIM!
HIS SUFFERING IS OVER
HE IS REDEEMED. HIS SPIRIT AT REST
WE MUST GO ON
YOU ARE RIGHT
WE MUST NOT FAIL THE MASTER
WE MUST NOT FAIL THE MEMORY OF THE IRON GHOST

BE OLD
THE WIND IS BITTER LITTLE ONE
A DEEPER COLD
THE CHILL OF THE GRAVE
FREE SPIRITS
LOST SPIRITS
ALL WARRIORS OF KIANG SHAN THE TEMPLE OF GHOSTS
SOULS OF THOSE LONG SLAIN SOULS OF THE FRESHLY DEAD
THEY SEEK SANCTUARY AND VENGEANCE

THEY HATE THE IV NG
OH!
PYANG KOON YOU ARE TRULY AN IRON GHOST
THEY HAVE BEEN TURNED FROM
YOU WILL HELP THEM BY HELPING US

THE SLAIN GHOST IS UNEASY SHE DOES NOT UNDERSTAND YOUR SACRIFICE
THE SPILLING OF BLOOD CAUSES HER PAIN
THE BLOOD OF HER ENEMIES AS MUCH AS OF HER FRIENDS
STILL YOU MOCK ME

I HAVE BEATEN YOU, BURNT YOU, STRIPPED YOUR FLESH
AND YOU REFUSE TO GIVE ME WHAT I ASK
WHERE IS THE SPIRIT OF GHONG FAI LHON? WHERE HAVE YOU CONCEALED IT?
I HAVE KILLED EVERY ONE OF YOUR ACOLYTES AND FREED THEIR SPIRITS
I HAVE OPENED EVERY BOOK, EVERY URN, EVERY SARCOPHAGUS AND GHONG FAI LHON IS NOT REVEALED
THE FIRST GHOST HE FATHER OF KIAN SHAN, THE KILLING HAND OF THE GHOST TEMPLE
HE IS THE ROCK UPON WHICH THIS FORTRESS RESTS
I DEMAND HIS SPIRIT BE DELIVERED TO ME!

YOU DEMAND?
YOU KNOW WHAT YOU REQUEST?
OF THE DEADLIEST FIGHTER EVER TO LIVE
YOU KNOW NOTHING
BUT SOON YOU WILL KNOW ALL
AND THE TRUTH WILL PROVE MORE TERRIBLE THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE

Storytellers

WRITER
CHUCK DIXON

PENCILLER
WILL ROSADO

LETTERER
DAVE LANPHEAR

INKERS
PABLO MARCOS
& CHUCK GIBSON

COLORIST
MICHAEL ATIYEH

The
CrossGen Universe
created by
Mark Alessi &
Gina M. Villa

President, Chief Executive Officer & Publisher · **Mark Alessi**
Senior Vice President, Chief Creative Officer · **Gina M. Villa**
Vice President, Writing Development · **Barbara Kesel**
Director, Ancillary Publishing · **Ian M. Felley**
Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer · **Michael A. Beattie**
Controller · **Brian Soltis**
Senior Vice President, General Counsel · **Jennifer Hernandez**
Senior Vice President, Product Development · **Tony Panacci**
Director of Marketing & Communications · **Bill Rosemann**
Vice President, Sales · **Chris Carr**
Director of Sales, Direct & Foreign Markets · **James Breitbeil**
Vice President, Special Projects · **Brandon Petersen**
Vice President, Art Director · **Bari Sears**
Assistant Art Directors · **Michael Atiyeh, Butch Guice, Dave Lanphear, Rick Magyar, Laura Martin, Mark Pennington, Andy Smith**
Freelance Coordinator · **Michelle Pugliese**
Vice President, Production · **Pam Davies**
Production Supervisor, Advertising/Web · **Sylvia Bretz**
Production Supervisor, Books · **Janet Becklin**
Production Designers · **Erin Flanagan & Randy Martin**
Production Assistants · **Marisol Quintana & Ron Dominguez**

CrossGen
5 OF 5
OCT
THE SILKEN GHOST
Chuck Dixon
Will Rosado
& Sal Velluto
Pablo Marcos
Michael Atiyeh
00155 57609
USA $2.95 CAN $4.25
crossgen.com

Since the lost eras of Shinacea's distant past, in the shadowy years before that nation had a name, the art of combat has been joined with the world of mysticism. These disciplines of battle and spirituality had schools where fighters were trained and sent out into the world to spread the word of their revered sifus, or masters.

The greatest, and most feared, of these schools was Kiang Shan, the Holy Temple of the Ghosts.

Now reduced to only three, the former pupils of Kiang Shan arrive at the Temple of Ghosts. What waits for them within is a power beyond their abilities to defeat.

Silken Ghost™ Vol. 1 Issue 5 OCTOBER 2003 FIRST PRINTING Published by CrossGen Comics LLC Office of publication: 4023 Tampa Road, Suite 400 Oldsmar, Florida 34677 CrossGen® CrossGen Comics® CrossGenerations® and the CrossGen eagle® are registered trademarks of CrossGen Intellectual Property LLC. Silken Ghost™ Way of the Rat™ and all characters and images are Trademarks and Copyright 2003 CrossGen Intellectual Property LLC. All Rights Reserved. The names, incidents and characters in this publication are fictional. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this book may be reproduced in any form without the express written consent of CrossGen Comics LLC. PRINTED IN CANADA.

FINALLY AFTER SO MANY YEARS SO MANY *LIVES* SPENT
THE OLD MASTER *SURRENDERS* HIS SECRET TO ME
THE *SPIRIT* OF GHONG LO LHON
AND THE *KILLING HAND* OF KIANG SHAN

IT WAS THE ROCK UPON WHICH THE GHOST TEMPLE WAS BUILT
I AM FREE!
GREAT GHONG LO THON!
GRANT ME YOUR SKILL! WOULD TAKE ON YOUR SPIRIT TO BRING LOW MY ENEMIES!
GIVE ME MASTERY OVER THE FLYING HAND!
TOO LONG HAS HIS POWER AIN TA FLOW!

THAT SCREAM
THE SHRIEK OF AN ANIMAL?
OR A MAN
WHATEVER MAKES THAT HOWL IS BEING TORTURED
PERHAPS WE ARE TOO LATE, FRIENDS
SILENCE, PHAN. WE HAVE NOT COME ALL OF THESE MILES TO FAIL
TEI SU SEES SUNSHINE WHERE ALL IS DARK

MY SPIRIT IS IN BALANCE, SHIH YUN
IS THAT SO? WELL, I BELIEVE THAT
QUIET!
THERE IS GREAT DANGER HERE
THE SIFU?
HE LIVES BUT NEARS DEATH
HE COULD BE ANYWHERE! SEARCH EVERY CHAMBER!

IT IS FORBIDDEN, JI CHEN
I CARE NOT
OUR SPIRITS KNOW THAT WE ARE AS ONE
SHH YEN

STILL THE TIMID LITTLE MOUSE TEI SU?
SO YOU HAVE TAKEN ON THE GUISE OF THE *LAUGHING* GHOST
CAN *YOU* NOT LAUGH AS WELL?
THE JOKE IS *YOURS*, AFTER ALL
BY YOUR BETRAYAL YOU HAD THE SIFU TURN SHIH YUN AND I FROM THE TEMPLE
DID NOT *MEAN* TO REVEAL YOU, I CHEN
I CONFESSED THAT I HAD FALLEN PREY TO LOVE AND HAD *FAILED* IN MY SCHOOLING
THE SIFU *KNEW* IT WAS YOU!

THE PAIN IS STILL THERE, IS IT NOT?
HAHAHAHAHAHAHA
SHE MEANS NOTHING TO ME!
PLEASE
STILL YOUR VOICE

PHAN?
VERY FAST
FAST AS LIGHTNING
BUT NOT SO FAST~
AS ME!

THEY WERE MURDERED AT PRAYER
THE TEMPLE OF KIANG SHAN IS A TOMB
OH!
SHIH YUN
PERHAPS YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN ME
THEN REMOVE MY MASK

AND TELL ME IF I AM AS YOU RECALL ME!
NO!
HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA
HELLO?
YOU ARE THE SIFU
I AM
WE HAVE COME TO SAVE YOU

TEI SU AND TWO STUDENTS YOU REACHED OUT FOR
THE SICKEN GHOST
SHE BRINGS BE ONE SEEK
WHO DO YOU SEEK?
SHEH YUN?
PHAN?
YOU, MY CHILD
LONG HAVE I AWAITED YOU!
BHIN TRANH DOC
YOU HAVE GROWN OLD

HAVE SO MANY YEARS PASSED SINCE YOU IMPRISONED MY SPIRIT
SINCE YOU TOOK FROM ME MY TEMPLE? YOU COULD NOT DENY ME FOREVER
YOU WILL RETURN TO ME THE POWER OF KIANG SHAN!
AND WHAT IS THIS? A CHILD?
A SIGHTLESS WAIF
OH!
NOT JUST A CHILD I SENSE -- SOMETHING MORE--
-A NEW TREACHERY!
DO NOT HARM ME

RELEASE HER, FIEND!
-UNNH-
FLEE, KAI TAO!
I CANNOT--
THE MASTER NEEDS ME

I KNOW YOU RESIDE WITHIN, I CHEN
YOUR HEART SURVIVES YOU COULD NOT KILL ME
HE IS DEAF TO YOUR PLEAS
HE IS SMALL WEAK
NO!
IT IS FOR GHONG LO LHON TO DELIVER YOU YOUR FATE
UNNH!
WATCH THE ONE AND HEED MY WORDS
THERE IS LITTLE TIME

AND NOW--
--THE KILLING HAND
UH?
AAAH!
I STRUCK HIS HEART BUT HE YET LIVES
NOT FOR LONG FRIEND
HAH!

NO! NOT THE CHILD!
THE POWER OF THE TEMPLE IS MINE!
IT'S YOURS, HA-HA-HA!
THE GHOST TEMPLE IS MINE!

SIFU!
THE SOULS OF A THOUSAND WARRIORS
YOU WILL NOT TOUCH HER LING CEAN PHANTOM!

FOOL
CANNO

--SUCH AS AN ETERNITY SPENT AS DISINCORPORATED VAPOR.
GAAAH!
THE SIFU DID NOT SEEK A RESCUE.
HE SOUGHT YOU, KAI TAO.
WE WERE ONLY MEANT TO DELIVER YOU.
KAI WILL SERVE AS THE NEW SIFU OF THE TEMPLE OF GHOSTS--
--THE GUARDIAN OF SPIRITS BENIGN AND MALEVOLENT.
AND GHONG LO LHON WILL RETURN TO IMPRISONMENT IN SEPARATE JARS.
AND THERE WILL BE BALANCE.
THERE WILL BE PEACE.

I WISH TO *THANK* YOU FOR THE TERRIBLE RISKS AND GREAT SACRIFICES YOU MADE.
THE *SIFU* KNEW I COULD NOT MAKE THE JOURNEY *ALONE*.
KNOW THAT YOU ARE *REDEEMED* IN HIS EYES AND WELCOME TO *REMAIN* IN THESE WALLS.
IT IS BETTER THAT YOU START YOUR REIGN *WITHOUT* US, KAI.
I *STILL* SEEK ADVENTURE AND CHANCE.
AND THERE ARE NO *MEN* HERE. NO *PHYSICAL* ONES, IN any CASE.
THEN TRAVEL *SAFELY*, AND REMEMBER THAT YOU HAVE A *HOME* HERE IN KIANG SHAN.
YOUR SERVICE TO THE TEMPLE WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN--
--IN THIS WORLD *OR* THE NEXT.

THE SNOWS SUBSIDE. THE PASSES WILL BE OPEN.
A LONG WALK IN ANY CASE.
ARE YOU CERTAIN THE LITTLE ONE WILL BE SAFE ALL ALONE IN THAT PLACE, TEI SU?
ALONE?
"NOT ALONE, PHAN.
"NEVER ALONE."
I AM AWAY TO THE IMPERIAL CITY AND RICHES.
I WILL ACCOMPANY YOU, SHIH. AND YOU, TEI SU?
ZHUMAR.
I HAVE NOT SEEN MY FATHER IN YEARS.

President Chief Executive Officer & Publisher · **Mark Alessi**
Senior Vice President Chief Creative Officer · **Gina M. Villa**
Vice President Writing Development · **Barbara Kesel**
Director Ancillary Publishing · **Ian M. Feller**
Senior Vice President Chief Financial Officer · **Michael A. Beattie**
Controller · **Brian Soltis**
Senior Vice President General Counsel · **Jennifer Hernandez**
Senior Vice President Product Development · **Tony Panaccio**
Director of Marketing & Communications · **Bill Rosemann**
Vice President Sales · **Chris Garr**
Director of Sales Direct & Foreign Markets · **James Breitbeil**

Vice President Special Projects · **Brandon Peterson**
Vice President Art Director · **Bart Sears**
Assistant Art Directors · **Michael Atiyeh, Dave Lanphear, Rick Magyar, Laura Martin, Mark Pennington, Andy Smith**
Freelance Coordinator · **Michelle Pugliese**
Vice President Production · **Pam Dukes**
Production Supervisor Advertising/Web · **Sylvia Bretz**
Production Supervisor Books · **Janet Bechtle**
Production Designers · **Erin Flanagan & Randy Martin**
Production Assistants · **Marisol Quintana & Ron Domingo**